

A TOUGH START FOR WILLIAMS

ANDY WILLIAMS has been given the toughest possible baptism to his new job as Wycombe Wanderers' manager by being given away visits to the Isthmian League top two — Dagenham and Enfield in the first five games of the new season.

In the very first league match on Saturday, August 19,

the Blues travel to Victoria Road to meet last year's second-place club Dagenham. Then, after home games with Boreham Wood and Hendon, Wycombe visit Walthamstow on Monday, August 28 and then champions Enfield on Saturday, September 2.

The full list of opening league fixtures until the end of September is:

Sat Aug 19 v Dagenham (a), Tues Aug 22 v Boreham Wood (h), Sat Aug

26 v Hendon (h), Mon Aug 28 v Walthamstow Ave (a), Sat Sept 2 v Enfield (a), Tues Sept 5 v Slough (h), Sat Sept 9 v Tooting (h), Tues Sept 12 v Hayes (a), Sat Sept 16 (to be arranged), Tues Sept 19 v Staines (a), Sat Sept 23 v Leatherhead (h), Tues Sept 26 v Boreham Wood (a), Sat Sept 30 v Barking (a).

The vacant date on September 16 depends on other FA Cup results, while other interesting dates later on in the season see Wycombe entertaining Oxford City on Boxing Day with a return at Oxford on New Year's Day. This is a revived holiday arrangement after Oxford's return to the Premier Division following promotion.

Blues' committee have set next season's admission fees at: adults 50p, children 30p, pensioners 20p, plus 25p extra for stand in all cases.

Membership of the club for adults will be £10.50 if paid before the first home league match, and £11.50 if paid on or after August 22. The equivalent rates for juniors are £3.50 and £4.50. Season tickets are £3.50 plus ground admission.

One heartening piece of news is that Wycombe's physiotherapist Ken Reed has been awarded the Queen's Commendation for Bravery. Ken is an officer in the Berkshire Fire Brigade, based at Reading and the award is for rescuing two firemen from a building.

Powell returns

TED Powell, sacked as Wycombe Wanderers manager 18 months ago, returns to Loakes Park on Tuesday, August 8, when he brings his Malawi National XI to play a pre-season friendly against the Blues.

Powell was dismissed after he had told Wycombe that he was applying for the Malawi National management. He subsequently got the job after being dismissed by Wycombe. His sacking caused some bitterness at the time but the wounds have healed enough for him to bring his side to Loakes Park in what should be the first of three attractive pre-season friendlies.

Blues' next match comes on Saturday, August 12, when they entertain Southern League side Minehead. It will give local fans a chance to see the strong West Country side that knocked Wycombe out of last year's F.A. Cup with a 2-0 victory.

The third friendly is against those old favourites Cheltenham Town — another West Country side from the Premier Division of the Southern League. This match also takes place at Loakes Park, as have numerous friendlies between these two sides in recent years.

Wanderers have already played one match and that was behind closed doors against Football League side Reading at Bisham Abbey last Thursday night. However, it was a meaningless encounter with both sides making many changes. The match ended in a 1-1 draw.

SLOUGH RUCTIONS

WITH the new football season less than three weeks away, the Slough Town club are in complete disarray following the resignation of chairman Gordon Greig and most of the management committee including manager Joe Arpino at their annual meeting last Thursday.

Mr Greig took this drastic action as the meeting went into uproar following the announcement that Mr Bill Brown would no longer be football secretary after 20 years in office.

According to club rules, all nominations for office should have been received by general secretary Mr Roger Lee by May 16. Mr Brown's nomina-

tion was not in by that time. But that of Mr Reg White applying for the same position was received in time.

In past years, members seeking re-election were nominated automatically by the management committee but last season they decided to stick strictly to the rules. So Mr Brown's plea to be considered despite the late nomination, was ruled out of order by the committee.

At the annual meeting supporters of Mr Brown caused such an uproar that despite repeated attempts, the president Mr Peter Walsh was unable to bring the meeting to order.

It was at this stage that Mr

Greig led a walk-out by the committee, who followed him almost to a man. One of those to stay behind was the new football secretary Mr White.

President Mr Walsh, who also stayed at the meeting, plans to meet Mr Greig and the committee to try and persuade them to return.

Mr Roger Lee summed up the current crisis when he said: "Either the president persuades the chairman to return to the club or Slough Town FC will cease. I can see no one with the ability, experience of enthusiasm of Gordon Greig capable of taking over as chairman."